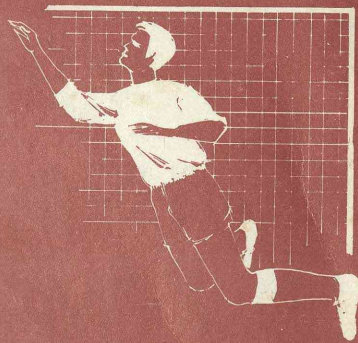


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Vol.1 No.20

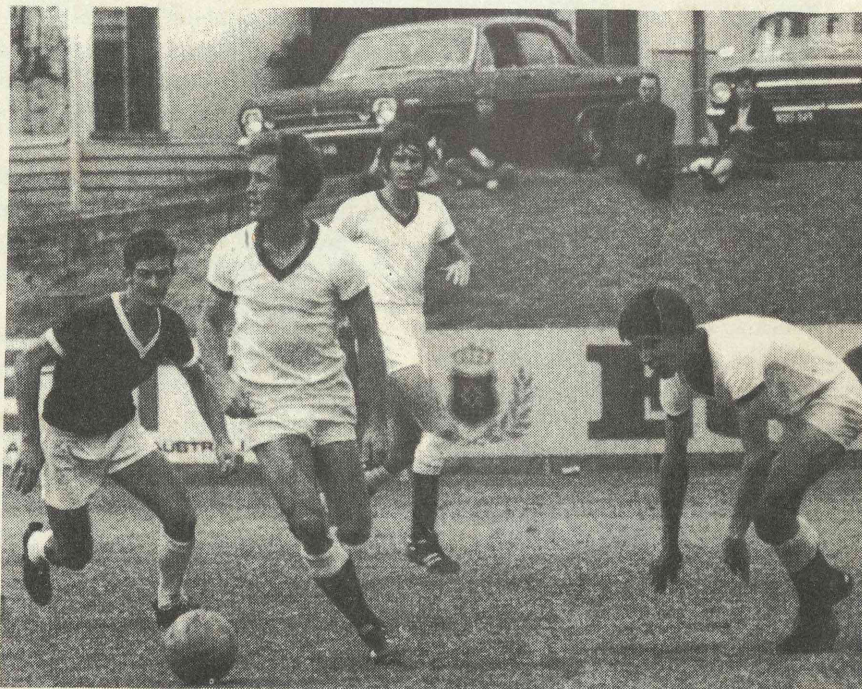
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Saturday, 14th. August, 1971

CUP SERIES ALL SQUARE

Brisbane levelled the Kruger Cup series with their 4-2 win over Ipswich at Perry Park last Sunday.

There was safety in numbers in this segment of the game as Ipswich forward GLEN McKEAND (left) was outnumbered three to one by PETER NIELSEN, GEOFF GAULT and ALEX SENJUSCHENKO.



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"Go Soccer" Feature Page

ENGLISH FOOTBALL ROUND-UP-

THE "MAD" SEASON IS UNDERWAY

LONDON:

The countdown for blast-off is on. On August 14th, the British Soccer season goes into orbit and the millions of fanatical fans won't come down to earth again until next May.

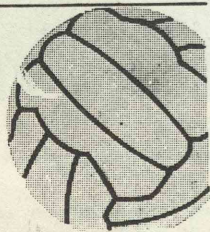
It's the silly season. Normally sane people go bonkers.

Housewives kiss their husbands goodbye as they get out their scarf, rosette and rattle.

George Best, Charlie George or Bobby Charlton become the main topic for conversation. Tempers become frayed, blood will spill.

Saturday night dinners will be spoiled, Sunday afternoons will reduce men to square-eyed idiots and women to tears.

And the 1971-72 season looks like becoming the craziest ever. One Soccer record will have been smashed even before the new season kicks off.



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From now until the official opening, clubs will play almost 200 friendly and tour matches - The equivalent of more than four full league programmes.

The warm-up has never been hotter and points to a red-hot season.

A Football League official said: "We've never known anything like this scramble by the clubs to fit in pre-season matches."

A few years ago clubs were content to play first team against reserves or probables against possibles and leave it at that. Now they all want to start in top gear."

Sixteen clubs have been given permission and have made pre-season overseas tours.

The West Germans were the most popular opponents, with Huddersfield, Derby, Liverpool, Nottingham Forest and Manchester City all playing against them.

Huddersfield also play our games in Holland, which has attracted visits from Charlton, Crystal Palace, Sheffield United and Arsenal as well.

And it's not only the big-time clubs who have been globe-trotting in a bid to have a top-class preparation to the new season.

Fourth division Southend have got into the act, too and their trip was the most ambitious of the lot - they went to Russia for a series of games.

Here's hoping they don't all start off worn out.

HE WANTS TO EMULATE COMPTON

There haven't been too many sportsmen who have mixed first-class Cricket and Soccer successfully. Denis Compton is the most notable of those who have.

Now, 27-year-old Ted Hemsley is making a name for himself as a top-liner in both sports - and it has sparked off a predicament.

Hemsley has played a major part with bat and ball in Worcestershire's spectacular title challenge in the Sunday John Player League competition.

Recently he grabbed his best figures of his career - 4-42 - and in doing so not only helped shatter Essex but also paved the way for Worcester to take over their opponent's no. 2 spot on the league table.

But Hemsley is also a \$ 140,000 fullback with newly-promoted First Division side Sheffield United, and that puts a spanner in the works.

Worcester need him for their title tilt, Sheffield United require him for the new Soccer season. The Cricket club have made a special plea to the football outfit to release him and are anxiously awaiting a decision.

Says the man caught in the middle of the ticklish situation: "United have been great in releasing me from pre-season training, but the manager is obviously concerned about all the travelling I've been doing."

"In the next month, United are committed to a three-match tour of Holland and Belgium, a friendly with Sheffield Wednesday and three First Division games."

Continued on Page 5

LOWER DIVISIONS POINTS TABLES

DIVISION 2A	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	PTS.	DIVISION 3A	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	PTS.	DIVISION 3C	P.	W.	D.	F.	L.	A.	PTS.
1. Oxley	18	14	2	2	49	17	30	1. Olypmic	19	15	2	2	86	24	32	1. Valley	19	16	1	2	95	19	33
2. Merton	19	12	4	3	55	32	28	2. Germania	19	13	2	4	56	25	28	2. Mitchelton	18	13	2	3	86	28	28
3. Mitchelton	18	11	5	2	55	28	27	3. Pk. Rangers	19	13	1	5	62	30	27	3. St. Albans	18	13	-	5	97	26	26
4. Annerley	19	9	5	5	53	25	23	4. Ac. Ridge	19	11	3	5	80	40	25	4. Budapest	19	10	2	7	41	53	22
5. Germania	19	9	3	7	42	36	21	5. Dnipro	19	10	3	6	45	51	23	5. Coolangatta	19	10	1	8	65	60	21
6. Taringa	19	8	3	8	36	32	19	6. Annerley	19	9	4	6	53	37	22	6. Pk. Rangers	19	8	1	10	42	74	17
7. Budapest	19	5	8	6	33	35	18	7. Sth. Coast	18	8	2	8	37	44	18	7. Gold Coast	18	7	1	10	40	53	15
8. Sth. Coast	19	6	4	9	42	41	16	8. Newmarket	19	7	2	10	37	60	16	8. Zillmere	19	7	1	11	28	53	15
9. Gap	18	6	4	8	36	39	16	9. Redcliffe	19	6	2	11	35	77	14	9. University	17	5	4	8	50	53	14
10. Newmarket	18	4	2	12	17	45	10	10. Gap	19	4	4	11	39	53	12	10. Teachers	18	5	1	12	25	89	11
11. Dnipro	19	3	3	13	26	62	9	11. Thistle	19	4	1	14	24	63	9	11. Wynnum	14	4	2	8	22	50	10
12. Willowburn	19	3	1	15	22	74	7	12. Q'ld N'papers	7	-	-	7	7	57	0	12. Mt. Gravatt	17	3	2	12	30	63	8

DIVISION 2B

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	PTS.	
1. Hellenic	19	14	3	2	68	24	31
2. Mt. Gravatt	19	13	3	3	56	25	29
3. Redcliffe	19	12	3	4	69	43	27
4. Coalstars	18	11	2	5	58	37	24
5. Bardon	19	10	2	7	47	46	22
6. Azzurri	18	7	4	7	41	38	18
7. Thistle	18	7	3	8	42	35	17
8. Gold Coast	18	5	5	8	34	50	15
9. Redlands	18	5	2	11	40	61	12
10. Hollandia	19	4	3	12	37	69	11
11. Merton	18	4	1	13	30	54	9
12. St. Helens	17	1	3	13	21	61	5

DIVISION 2C

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	PTS.	
1. Polonia	19	13	3	3	55	24	29
2. Bardon	19	12	3	4	54	39	27
3. Annerley	19	12	-	7	48	33	24
4. Budapest	18	8	5	5	34	42	21
5. Taringa	19	8	5	6	30	41	21
6. University	17	8	4	5	44	36	20
7. Wynnum	17	8	3	6	34	33	19
8. Toowong	19	6	5	8	22	33	17
9. Mitchelton	19	6	4	9	40	40	16
10. Gap	19	7	-	12	40	56	14
11. Oxley	18	5	4	9	27	51	14

DIVISION 3B

P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	PTS.	
1. Pine Rivers	19	15	3	1	78	31	33
2. Booval	19	16	-	3	75	25	32
3. Zillmere	19	14	1	4	80	29	29
4. University	19	12	1	5	64	32	25
5. Darra	19	11	2	6	67	30	24
6. Mt. Gravatt	19	7	8	4	45	25	22
7. Brighton	19	9	2	8	68	62	20
8. Annerley	19	6	2	11	32	68	14
9. Redlands	19	5	1	13	31	96	11
10. Toowong	19	3	2	14	28	83	8
11. Taringa	19	1	3	15	36	67	5
12. Wynnum	19	2	1	16	23	79	5

DIVISION 4

P.	W.	D.	F.	L.	A.	PTS.	
1. Irish	19	16	2	1	94	22	34
2. New Farm	18	15	2	1	100	20	32
3. Wacol	19	9	2	8	63	54	20
4. Pine Rivers	19	8	-	11	44	59	16
5. Annerley	17	7	-	10	46	51	14
6. Mt. G. Teach.	18	6	2	10	45	74	14
7. Darra	14	4	2	8	27	52	10
8. Toowong	18	4	-	14	17	92	8

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**GOALKEEPER
IN CUP ACTION**

Our cameraman caught Sunday's Cup goalkeepers at pretty hectic moments in these two incidents from the second match of the series.

Brisbane's MARTIN COE is well covered by ALEX SENJUSCHENKO as he gathers a shot under pressure from Ipswich forwards GLEN McKEAND and KEVIN CALDWELL (no.9).

Continued from Page 2

"Football may have to come first, especially as we have just been promoted."

Somebody is going to miss out, but whether it will be a cricket or football pitch Hemsley's playing on in the next few weeks, one thing is certain - the player himself will give a 100% effort.

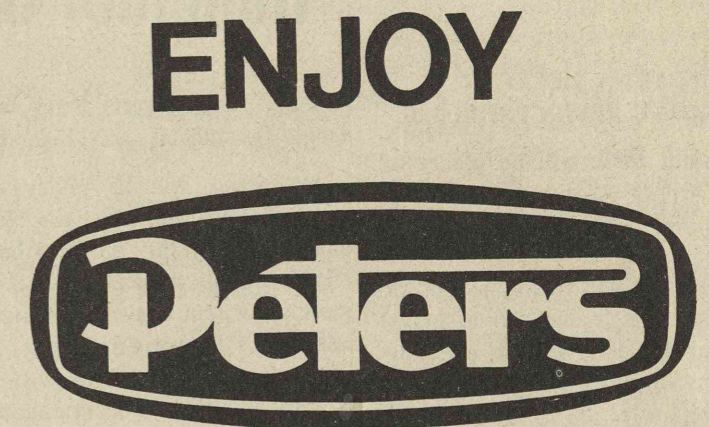
It's not all glamour being a Soccer star. Well, so says Blackpool manager Bob Stokoe.

And 19-year-old Goalkeeper John Burrige, signed for \$20,000 from Workington in May, certainly knows his boss means it.

For Stokoe has told Burrige to get rid of his new \$4,000 Lotus sports car. "I will not allow teenagers who are on my staff to drive around in Sports cars," he said. "It presents a wrong image."

COLTS DIVISION

	P.	W.	D.	F.	L.	A.	PTS.
1. Wynnun	15	12	1	2	54	17	25
2. Thistle	15	12	1	2	54	24	25
3. Azzurri	15	10	4	1	52	19	24
4. Ac. Ridge	15	9	1	5	29	29	19
5. St. Helens	15	7	2	6	46	35	16
6. Dnipro	14	7	1	6	34	37	15
7. Hollandia	15	6	2	7	28	34	14
8. Redcliffe	15	4	-	11	17	65	8
9. Gold Coast	10	1	-	9	2	58	2



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AIRLINE

FIRST DIVISION PREVIEWS AND TEAMS

Hellenic & Thistle hold the key to Premiership race

MERTON v. HELLENIC (SATURDAY, PERRY PARK, 3.0).

No doubt there will be plenty of Azzurri supporters present at Perry Park for this match on Saturday.

Merton must win to stay in sight of the premiership leaders, so naturally a loss to Hellenic almost certainly will assure Azzurri of retaining their premiership title.

The task of winning will be a tough one, particularly now that Merton's midfield strength will be weakened by the suspension of Trevor Catchpole.

But fortunately, Merton have strength in their reserves and Matt Carson should be able to satisfactorily plug that gap with either Harry Stewart or Steve Amos.

This is where Hellenic could prove too strong, with Matt Jackson, Ian Fagan and Tony Murtagh all playing well in the middle.

Much will depend on Eric Pattison, Des Heath and Ron Millman to produce as much fire up front as their

Hellenic counterparts Peter Walker, Andy Tsoumbaras and Billy Fagan.

Defences will be pretty evenly matched with probably the Hellenic quartet of Petridis, the Maxtons and Mackie slightly more effective than the most consistent Ipswich defenders in last week's Kruger Cup clash.

This will be the most rugged and keenly fought match of the week-end with a determined Merton slightly favoured to retain their winning run and stay on the heels of the premiership leaders.

MERTON

1. R. Karreman
2. G. Clelland
3. G. Catchpole
4. A. Senjuschenko
5. G. Meagher
6. G. Amos
7. D. Heath
8. S. Smos
9. E. Pattison
10. R. Millman
11. B. Bohan

HELLENIC

1. S. Sander
2. C. Petridis
3. W. Maxton
4. R. Maxton
5. G. Mackie
6. I. Fagan
7. W. Fagan
8. A. Murtagh
9. M. Jackson
10. A. Tsoumbaras
11. P. Walker

COACH- M. Carson. COACH- T. Devine.



DICK KARREMAN



STUART DEDMAN

POLONIA v. BARDON (SUNDAY, PERRY PARK, 3.0).

Bardon should be strong favourites to win here and retain their prominent place in the top four.

But they will be under a lot of pressure from the struggling Polonia, still battling to ease their perilous relegation position.

Reports last week-end stated that several top Polonia men were still carrying injuries they received in their bruising clash with Wynnum last Sunday week.

The men in doubt are halfbacks Alan James and Derek Robson and centre forward Syd Tucker.

Without these men, the Polonia task will be a hopeless one against Bardon, weakened only by the absence in defence of the suspended John Hickman.

And despite some shaky moments in the Cup match last Sunday, Geoff Gault did not appear to be troubled by his knee injury and should be ready to hit top form again as Bardon's defence king-pin.

Winger Cormack is getting close to his best, judging by his constructive first half for Brisbane on Sunday, and should be able to create enough openings with the help of Ian Young, Alan Jamieson and the expected improver John McGinley.

A fully fit Polonia side will not allow Bardon to have things all their own way, but with Bardon now firmly intent on staying in the top four, they should eventually emerge with the two points.

BARDON

1. M. Coe
2. G. Patruno
3. M. Lee
4. G. Rowan
5. G. Gault
6. A. Sinclair
7. A. Jamieson
8. J. McGinley
9. E. Carrigan
10. I. Young
11. J. Cormack

POLONIA

1. F. Romanowski
2. E. Musial
3. D. Attwood
4. I. Frampton
5. G. Whitaker
6. A. James
7. D. Robson
8. O. Monaghan
9. S. Tucker
10. R. Clark
11. W. Walker

COACH- E. Carrigan COACH- D. Robson COACH- G. Wilkins.

HOLLANDIA v. COALSTARS (SATURDAY, RICHLANDS, 2.45).

Coalstars now find themselves burdened with relegation worries and will face up to one of their most vital matches here in recent years.

Hollandia on the other hand appear to be quite safe from the danger zone but look well and truly out of the race for the semi-finals.

This factor could provide Coalstars with more determination and the ability to pull off a much-needed victory.

They have disheartened their supporters on many occasions this year with their almost complete lack of interest in front of goal after they have been provided with simple goal scoring opportunities.

The bustling Caldwell could be the match-winner, if he can receive enough support from Ian Davis and Wally Kitching. The latter put plenty of life into his Cup effort last Sunday and was willing to tackle, a feature that has been missing from his football this season.

Hollandia are in the doldrums and it looks like Gary Wilkins will have to return to his powerful best to inspire some life into Ritchie Wilson, Barry Ross and Dale Mortimer.

Maybe Hollandia will decide to play young forward Paul Ray, who displayed plenty of promise early, but who has been absent from the line-up in recent weeks.

HOLLANDIA

1. G. Hayes
2. E. Deavin
3. P. Steen
4. P. Sunderland
5. J. Van Klaveren
6. S. Dedman
7. G. Wilkins
8. R. Wilson
9. D. Mortimer
10. B. Ross
11. A. Karbonowicz

COALSTARS

1. B. Shreiweis
2. J. Roderick
3. E. Kreis
4. A. Haywood
5. F. Johnston
6. B. Ahearn
7. W. Kitching
8. R. Hallett
9. K. Caldwell
10. I. Davis
11. R. Brown

COACH-

J. Bell

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AZZURRI v. THISTLE
(SUNDAY, SPENCER PARK, 2.45).

Merton supporters could return the compliment if their side wins on Saturday by flocking to Spencer Park to lend vocal support to fourth-placed Thistle.

But Thistle will not be a major threat unless they can greatly improve on their disappointing performance against Saints last Sunday week.

Big Ritchie Smith really got going in the second half of that match and with Jim Ancliffe, Steve Pollard and the promising Mick Drew could give the Azzurri defenders a headache.

Rumours were circulating last weekend that Matt Hosie may have been forced out of action and if true, his solid defence will be missed.

The good news for Azzurri is that strong centre forward Charlie Dench is available again, but whether he will come back as well following his three-weeks layoff, is another matter.

Regardless of that, Ian Johnston is in brilliant form and with Willie Connors and Billy Haigh still supplying most of the midfield drive, allied with Gerry Schoendorfer's speed, the Azzurri attack looks odds-on to crack Thistle's often shaky backline.

But Thistle always seem to be able to bring off success when least expected and they have a pretty good record over the years against Azzurri. These factors, despite their recent top-sy-turvy form could provide the lever for a shock win over the premiers.

AZZURRI	THISTLE
1. D. Neal	1. P. Roberts
2. G. Clifford	2. A. Smith
3. B. Pinti	3. A. Keenan
4. Pl Strawson	4. B. Dann
5. I. Perry	5. B. Allison
6. P. Nielsen	6. A. BAin
7. G. Schoendorfer	7. J. Cornford
8. W. Haigh	8. R. Smith
9. C. Dench	9. J. Ancliffe
10. I. Johnston	10. M. Drew
11. W. Connors	11. S. Pollard
COACH-	COACH-
N. Saftich.	P. Clemitson

ST. HELENS v. WYNNUM
(SUNDAY, BUNDAMBA, 2.45).

Saints will move into this match with a lot less pressure on them in view of the two shock points they collected from Thistle last Sunday week.

But Wynnnum are in desperate straights and will play with all the fire expected from a team battling for First Division survival.

The newcomers to the Saints side performed well against Thistle and with the more experienced hands, Lex Gibb, Mark Walker, Glen McKeand and young Peter Gemmell, should be able to reproduce that effort.

McKeand was not outstanding for Ipswich last Sunday but is in fine form in club matches and looks to be the main danger to Vic Leggatt, Glen Porter and Peter Edwards.

Neil Catchpole, Glen Merrin and Frank Sowden look again to be the top Wynnnum hopes, who must relentlessly chase goals on Sunday as goal average could well decide this year's relegation issue.

Fullback Arthur Creighton is expected to be much fitter by now and will be an added boon to the Wynnnum backline.

Wynnnum also have the advantage of youngster David Jones, who should follow up his Kruger Cup performance with another sound effort.

Victory could go to either side in what should be a hard-fought encounter but the most likely result could be a draw.

ST. HELENS	WYNNUM
1. M. Walker	1. G. Helmhold
2. A. Butcher	2. A. Creighton
3. B. Dobbie	3. V. Leggatt
4. P. Gemmell	4. P. Edwards
5. D. Dann	5. G. Porter
6. A. Gibb	6. D. Barrick
7. D. Cruikshanks	7. E. Wilkins
8. P. Kostrevis	8. D. Jones
9. G. McKeand	9. N. Catchpole
10. N. Cruikshanks	10. F. Sowden
11. R. Stubbs	11. G. Merrin
COACH-	COACH-
F. Robins.	H. Brown

FIRST DIVISION POINTS TABLE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	PTS.
1. Azzurri	15	9	4	2	36	20	22
2. Merton	15	9	3	3	40	26	21
3. Bardon	15	7	3	5	35	23	17
4. Thistle	15	7	3	5	30	28	17
5. Hellenic	15	7	1	7	34	28	15
6. St. Helens	15	6	1	8	29	34	13
7. Hollandia	15	5	3	7	27	36	13
8. Coalstars	15	5	1	8	27	33	11
9. Polonia	15	3	5	7	20	31	11
10. Wynnnum	15	4	2	9	27	46	10

NEXT WEEK'S FIXTURES

Saturday, August 21-
Bardon v. St. Helens
(Perry Park, 3.0).

Sunday, August 22-
Thistle v. Wynnnum
(Perry Park, 1.0).
Hellenic v. Polonia
(Perry Park, 3.0).
Coalstars v. Merton
(Bundamba, 2.45).
Azzurri v. Hollandia
(Spencer Par, 2.45).

LEADING GOALSCORERS
(PREMIERSHIP)

- 13 Ritchie Smith (Thistle)
- 12 Eric Pattison (Merton)
- 12 Glen MCKeand
- 10 Andy Tsoumbaras (Hellenic)
- 10 Kevin Caldwell (Coalstars)
- 9 Gerry Schoendorfer (Azzurri)
- 9 Ian Johnston (Azzurri)
- 8 Neil Catchpole(Wynnnum)
- 8 Frank Sowden (Wynnnum)
- 8 Bill Fagan (Hellenic)
- 8 Trevor Catchpole (Merton)
- 7 Des Heath (Merton)
- 7 Wally Kitching (Coalstars)
- 7 Peter Walker (Hellenic)
- 7 Ian Young (Bardon)

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On the Coaching Scene

BY SAM MORGAN

This week I'm sure the coaching news will be of great interest to all coaches and those interested in how this wonderful game of ours ticks. The article this week is from overseas. And to back up the information supplied we also provide two illustrations.

THE FACTS BEHIND MIDFIELD MANIA: A new disease has hit Soccer in recent years - midfielditis!

It has now reached epidemic proportions and is not confined to the British game but is prevalent the world over. How many games have you seen or read about, or watched on television, where the battle has been fought chiefly in the middle of the park?

Is it any wonder then that the overall total of goals scored each season in the major competitions is rapidly falling. Have you noticed too that attendances are also falling?

So fast, attacking football still will pull in the crowds, particularly if there is sufficient supply of the end product - goals.

But don't get us wrong. It is a fact that a game can easily and often is, lost entirely because of the lack of midfield control, for this is usually where attacks are set up and directed from.

But midfield strength, purely for its own sake, can and often does, produce negative football. It is when it is used as a launching pad for positive attacking moves, allied to additional defensive strength when required, that midfield strength is utterly essential.

A manager of a Football League club, noted for its steady flow of young players, recently remarked that out of ten promising players under his wing, at that time, one was a striker, one a defender and eight were aspiring midfield players.

There are of course several reasons why young players plump for a place in midfield. The simplest is the undoubted fact that there is less pressure than in defence and attack and much less chance of a simple mistake proving costly. But another important reason for the modern safety-first policy is that school boy and junior coaches are basing their tactics on avoiding defeat in every game.

Stop the opposition is their cry and if they lose 1 - 0 they can claim that they were only "just beaten." If they win 1 - 0 they say "We won didn't we," which looks alright on the record sheet or league table. But many wonder if this is the right way to play the game.

Maybe it all started with the success of the 1966 England World Cup side with Sir Alf Ramsey's 4-3-3 setup. This is only justified when it means six men in attack and seven in defence, as required.

In other words, the middle three must be hard runners and grafters who are prepared to play on the whole of the park between the two penalty

areas, and they must have the ability to score goals as well as setting them up, and defend when necessary.

The answer to all this is that from a very young age boys should be taught how to play in definite positions and not always in the same place.

Only by careful coaching in the requirements of the various positions will they be able to play in whatever place they may find themselves, according to the dictates of the game.

To simplify this further, it is preferable to coach players either as strikers or defenders. If a player is good at either of these jobs, he most certainly will be able to look after himself in midfield.

His actual situation on the park is of little or no account. If he is a positive attacker or defender, he will do his job well.

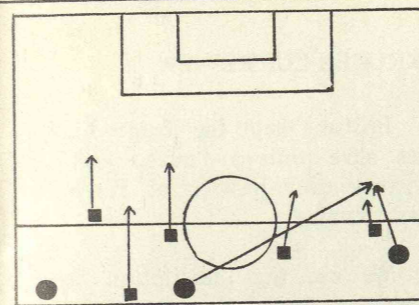
It is a much better situation to have a specialist defender or attacker moving into midfield than to have an essentially midfield man doing just the opposite.

In the first case a player without specialist ability will not generally be able to finish off a move. Another fallacy is that your defenders or midfield players should always be big men.

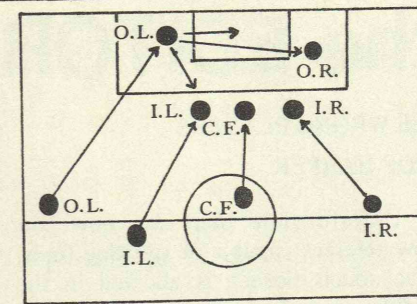
What is even more important is strength and determination. Most players in the game today are strong - they have to be.

But determination and steel are often inborn qualities of little men, George Best and Colin Bell are not exactly small, nor are they outstandingly big, but each has that determination, that refusal to be beaten and the strength and stamina to carry them through difficult, arduous situations - all qualities of a star footballer.

Strength is not always allied to size (boxer Jimmy Wilde proved that) and



● Attacker ■ Defender



The way to beat the offside trap is by the intelligent use of space and precise timing. Here the Squares defenders have, they hope, left little room for attacking manoeuvre. But the quick through pass into "No Man's Land", which the left back should be covering, gives the attacking Blobs' right winger the chance to burst through.

"Laying it back" could describe the situations which can be set up here as the left winger has gone deep, almost to the dead line. From this position he has the alternatives of (a) a shot at goal; (b) a cross to the opposite wing and (c) perhaps even more effective, a pass laid back to any of the inside trio who should be in follow-up positions, prepared to shoot.

Continued from Page 10

remember that looks can often deceive. But determination is probably the most valuable asset in any player in any position.

Watch Francis Lee riding tackles and still going forward, refusing to admit defeat and he's no giant. This is exactly what we mean by determination.

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HERE'S WHAT THE EXPERTS PREDICT THIS WEEK

	PROGRESSIVE POINTS		BILL MALCOLM	GEORGE PAGAN	RON MITCHELL	ALO. IAN BRUSASCO	BRUCE WADDELL	ALAN GIBB	JOHN STEEL	HARRY MOURNEY	MOST FANCED
Malcolm 49	Steel 47										
Mitchell 46	Pagan 42										
Waddell 42	Brusasco 41										
Mourney 38	Gibb 38										
MERTON V. HELLENIC			1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
HOLLANDIA V. COALSTARS			1	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	-
POLONIA V. BARDON			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
AZZURRI V. THISTLE			1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1
ST. HELENS V. WYNNUM			1	2	2	2	X	1	1	2	2

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FREER'S NUTS

Sold around the ground

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LETTER to the EDITOR

KRUGER CUP REVIEW.

REFS. ARE PUNISHING THE WRONG PLAYERS AN OBSERVATION - BY POP HARPER.

Football has become too fast for those appointed to control it. Our referees are in trouble.

The pace of the action has accelerated to where luck rather than judgement governs a referee's presence at a trouble point.

The pileup of cautions on the weekend before last only served to underline the problem.

Physical and verbal retaliation have become football's most punished offences, because few referees are quick enough or capable enough to recognise the source of such incidents.

There was a time when the referee's word was law, even if players thought he was wrong. The attitude has changed and frankly I don't know what we are going to do about it.

I will admit that much of the trouble these days is caused by things referees do not see.

Several times it has crossed my mind that the time has come to experiment with the two-referee system, as is used in Hockey.

With the two, one would control each half of the field and be up with the play at all times. It might well be the answer. Even a look at the trouble spots of the previous week-end strengthens the argument that referees are falling down on the job.

Last Saturday week, we saw plenty of cautions being distributed and while some got marching orders, others, although provokers, were allowed to go free.

And so it goes on - all too often it is the man who has been provoked that receives the punishment.

The referees' long-standing argument is that it is the players who commit the fouls, not the referees. Does this then mean that players can kick another man and have the referee ignore same?

Unfortunately there are now too few referees capable of spotting fouls. Too much licence is allowed in the tackle, too little is done to curb those who enter a challenge far too late for it to be remotely regarded as legitimate.

The very nature of our game demands physical courage and strength and timid players are now very much in the minority, but there is no reason why all should not be entitled to protection.

They are not getting this protection, because the motto of Brisbane referees seems to be "when in doubt, play on."

The poor quality of linesmen is doing little to assist the referee, although it is a common thing to see referees ignoring linesmen's signals, which suggests that the standard of refereeing here will nosedive even further.

IT IS A PROBLEM THAT THE QUEENSLAND FEDERATION MUST NOT DISMISS LIGHTLY.

Brisbane kept the Kruger Cup series alive with a "mixed grill" 4-2 victory over Ipswich at Perry Park last Sunday.

We use that description because Brisbane produced outstanding combination between midfield and attack to sweep to a commanding 3-0 lead, but after allowing Ipswich to creep back into the match with two quick goals.

Brisbane never regained that first half authority and at various stages in the second half, Ipswich looked likely to sneak home an equaliser.

This is how "Go Soccer" rated the performances of the players.

BRISBANE - M. Coe 4; G. Gault 3, P. Nielsen 5, A. Senjuschenko 5, B. Dann 3, D. Jones 4, G. Schoendorfer 4, W. Connors 3, J. Ancliffe 3, P. Walker 3, J. Cormack 3. Total 40.

IPSWICH - M. Walker 2, E. Kreis 3, P. Sunderland 3, P. Gemmill 3, C. Matters 4, W. Kitching 4, G. Wilkins 4, I. Davis 2, K. Caldwell 3, G. McKeand 3, A. Gibb 4. Total 35.

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